Payment of Wages Act. They also help in the administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act, Industrial Statistics Act, Industrial Employment Standing Orders Act, etc.

(b) With the increase in the number of factories, the work of Inspectors must have increased somewhat, but eleven additional Inspectors have been appointed this year and their jurisdiction has been reduced.

(c) & (d) No, Sir. A memorandum has been received from the Inspectors of Factories seeking revision of their pay. This is being examined.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—STATEMENT BY DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB FOR EXPUNGING A PORTION OF HIS SPEECH FROM THE PROCEEDINGS.

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—" Mr. President, with your kind permission I wish to say a few words in order to clear a misunderstanding that has unfortunately and quite unexpectedly arisen with regard to certain portion of my speech made during the recent food debate. I had no intention at all of insulting or affronting the Hindu religion. My sole and only aim was to bring home to the minds of my Hindu bothern in a vein of good humour the supreme importance of so good and precious a manure which is being wasted in more ways than one especially when we are passing through an unprecedented food crisis which threatens to become endemic and pandemic. I assure one and all and once for all that nothing could be further from my thoughts than to jeer or to sneer at any religion much less Hinduism which is dear and sacred to its votaries. But I confess that I only know the broad fundamentals and the outlines of Hinduism; but all the same, I assure all gentlemen who were not present here that I never used the word 'chunam'. However, from the bottom of my heart I express my profound regret if my unintentional reference has affected Hindu sentiments in certain quarters. Hereafter, I shall mind my p's and q's all the more by being overcautious. Mr. President, I have said the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, before I resume my seat, I request you to delete that portion of my speech, for which I would feel happy and thankful."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" On a point of order, Mr. President . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" There is no point of order to be raised; will you please resume your seat? The portion referred to will be deleted and I hope this question will now end and there will not be any further reference to it either by members or outside."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" The point I was about to raise was under what rules this portion is deleted. The proper procedure,

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I submit, will be to leave the original portion in the records of the proceedings of the House intact and also put in the remarks of the member with the President's orders on it. Supposing the original portion is deleted, how can any future reader know or find out what the offending portion was and why it was deleted. If it is deleted, there will be only a vacuum and there will be nothing for a future reader to see what this deletion was all about and for what purpose the apology of Dr. Tajuddin was offered."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I request hon. Members not to proceed with this matter further. The hon. Member has requested that the portion might be deleted and it will be deleted."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" I take it that the statement of Dr. Tajuddin will be published."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It will be."

GOVERNMENT BILL.

III.—THE MADRAS ESTATES COMMUNAL, FOREST AND PRIVATE LANDS (PROHIBITION OF ALIENATION) BILL, 1947 (L.A. BILL No. 26 OF 1947), AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY.

11-45 a.m. * THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, I move—

'*that the Madras Estates Communal, Forest and Private Lands (Prohibition of Alienation)* [a] *Bill*, 1947 (*L.A. Bill No.* 26 *of* 1947), *as passed by the Legislative Assembly be taken into consideration at once.*'

I need not dilate much upon this simple Bill, because it has been before the Press and the public for a considerable length of time. Sir, a number of representations were received by the Government that landholders were resorting, on a large scale, to the alienation and assignment of communal lands including the beds and bunds of tanks, and also of forests. Some landholders were also reported to have claimed communal lands as their private lands and to have assigned such lands for large sums of money. It was further alleged that several landholders were alienating their private lands after receiving large amounts by way of *nazarana*. Since the publication of the Prakasam Committee report in 1939, there was a feeling in the minds of the landholders that the Congress Government would proceed with that legislation either in pursuance of the Congress election manifesto or in pursuance of that report, and that the zamindaris would be abolished, and that relief would be given to cultivators and ryots. Perhaps in anticipation of that legislation being undertaken by the new Congress Government, alienations of communal lands and forest lands, and also alienations of lands, which were originally private lands, were going on. Such alienations and denudations of the forests became a very serious menace, and the Government in 1946 brought forward the Preservation of Private Forests Act as a temporary measure. In spite of that, there were alienations of forest, communal and private lands going on, and they have become so serious that Government had to resort to an Ordinance to prevent such

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[a] Printed as Appendix on pages 576–579 infra.